

COON RAPIDS PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF
MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2015

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order on August 10, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. in the Public Works Conference Room.

Members Present: Chair Tim Arntson, Commissioners Neal Livermore, Tim Matsche, and Gen Sand

Members Absent: Commissioner Mike Jacobson, Ryan McAlpine, and Valerie Weaver

Also Present: Ryan Gunderson, Recreation Coordinator
Gregg Engle, Parks Supervisor
Dan Coyle, Kimley-Horn

ROLL CALL

Chair Arntson acknowledged roll call.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 10, 2015 AGENDA

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SAND, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LIVERMORE, TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 10, 2015 AGENDA AS SUBMITTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LIVERMORE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SAND, TO APPROVE THE JULY 13, 2015 MEETING MINUTES. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review and Discussion of 2016 Park Bond Concepts

Dan Coyle from Kimley-Horn will be in attendance to discuss the concepts for Mason, Delta, Pheasant Ridge, and Woodcrest Parks. Concepts and Budget Outline are included in the packet for review. City staff seeks input and a recommendation to move the concepts to Council for approval.

The budgets presented are as follows:

Park	Schedule A Const. Subtot.	25% Indirect Cost	Schedule A Subtotal
Pheasant Ridge Park	\$378,050.00	\$94,512.50	\$472,562.50
Delta Park	\$306,275.00	\$76,568.75	\$382,843.75
Woodcrest Park	\$316,890.00	\$79,222.50	\$396,112.50
Mason Park	\$202,350.00	\$50,587.50	\$252,937.50
Total Base Bids			\$1,504,456.25

Mr. Coyle stated choices can be made to reduce project cost. The Legacy Grant fund process is open now and that may be an option for the City as additional source of funds. The concepts can be solidified this evening. There are two more weeks to make changes. There is no contingency in the cost estimates. Mr. Engle has visited the parks and looked at which can retain their equipment. Woodcrest is the only one that can retain playground equipment.

Commissioner Sand stated some shelters in other cities appear to have canvas. Mr. Engle stated those will be installed in Coon Rapids. They are heavy canvas with a poly coating. Mr. Engle stated he has refrained from those in the past due to vandalism. He will look at implementing them in some parks in the future depending on the location.

Mr. Coyle stated all the bituminous trails would be 8 feet wide rather than 10 feet wide. Mr. Engle stated at Hoover School the park pathway will be 8 feet wide and will be a substantial savings. The plows are 7.5 feet wide.

Mr. Coyle reviewed the program elements of each park:

Pheasant Ridge Park – Leaving function of playground and basketball court in place with reconstruction. Pedestrian connection with ADA ramp with access for ADA parking. Widening the curb for pedestrian access. Another access point at the end of the trail. There is sidewalk there now. Chair Arntson asked if the sidewalk can be extended. Mr. Coyle stated the sidewalk would be 8 feet wide. Construction details and parking area will be looked at further. Commissioner Livermore stated he likes the idea of the curb cut at the end of the trail. Signage would be needed. The Safety Board will look at handicapped signage. There was discussion previously to make a one mile loop. It is 9/10 of a mile as planned in the concept drawing. The park id kiosk was moved to more of an appropriate place. The 4-foot sidewalk would be converted to 8-foot bituminous trail. There would be a need for a retaining wall, at a cost of \$50,000. There would be native planting areas. Mr. Engle stated the Sustainability Committee is requesting more emphasis on pollinators be done in the parks. Commissioner Livermore asked if soil remedies are needed in this park and Mr. Gunderson stated it is being mowed now. Mr. Coyle reviewed the overlooks in the plan. There would be no boardwalks crossing the wetland. The area behind the townhomes would have two new benches with a concrete

pad to let people know it is City property. Commissioner Livermore stated he would like to see a substantial shelter put in this park. \$30,000 is in the budget for the shelter. Chair Arntson asked if there was a way to keep the sidewalk and widen it with bituminous. Mr. Gunderson stated that would be a code issue. A trail cannot be put up to the curb. There is a minimum distance from the curb in City Code.

Woodcrest Park – Sue Owens and Shirley Haapoja, residents were present at the meeting. Ms. Owens asked when the project would be done and Mr. Gunderson stated in 2016. Mr. Coyle stated no significant monies would be put into the shelter. The choice is to remove the warming house. Ms. Owens stated years ago it cost \$60,000 for the warming house. She asked if keys can still be obtained for the restrooms for neighborhood events. The warming house is used for storage. This park is not rented out to the general public. Ms. Owens stated she would hate to see it removed. Mr. Engle stated he has spoken with Tim Himmer about putting a metal roof on the building. The proposal is to keep the building and at this time, City Staff is looking at rehab. Chair Arntson stated also discussed was an overhang for a picnic shelter. Mr. Coyle stated that would be very expensive. Another option would be to demolish the warming house and a larger shelter. Ms. Owens stated the surrounding houses do not have basements and there is no storm shelter available. She does not know if the warming house was ever used as a storm shelter. Ms. Owens stated there is vandalism in the park and she asked if trail cameras could be put up. Mr. Engle stated the visibility of the cameras is very bad. It is difficult to identify the vandals. Mr. Coyle stated the existing playground would remain with some edging. The shelter would be adjacent. Bituminous trail would be installed. All trails would be 8-foot trails. There would be native plantings and some tree plantings. The ag lime would be moved. The 100-yard football field would remain. The soccer field would move to the west side of the park. Commissioner Livermore stated the link on the west side of the playground needs to be brought out to the street. Ms. Owens stated the part of the park that is fenced is 450 feet across. The fence would remain. The disc golf course is funded separately and a couple of the holes would come into the park. Chair Arntson referred to the removal of the light poles (\$5K each). Mr. Coyle stated they should come in less than \$5K each. Chair Arntson asked what would be excavated. Mr. Coyle stated some of the trail. Chain link fence would be the backstop for the baseball field. The backstop is \$20,000.

Delta Park – Mr. Coyle indicated on the map the proposed baseball infield with backstop. If a portion of the trail was eliminated the basketball court could be connected to the trail. The basketball court will not be in the far corner keeping it visible from the road. The discussion is how much trail is desired. Mr. Gunderson stated the standard is to have a walking trail in every park in the City. This is an isolated park. There may be some concerns with the relocation of the playground. Hockey will be removed from the park. There is not a lot of use of this park currently. The playground equipment would be \$60,000.

Mason Park – Mr. Coyle stated Mason is a natural park. Under all the oak trees, an oak savannah could be created. There would be a 60 x 100' open area. The basketball court would replace the tennis court. Nothing is in the proposal for trail and miscellaneous trail funds could be used to finish the trail. Since there is not off-street parking this park would not be rented out. Parking for this park is very limited. Mr. Engle stated he is meeting with three neighbors regarding this park to bring back information to their association. Commissioner Livermore suggested a bench near the playground and a bench on the opposite side would be nice. The meeting has been held with the neighborhood.

Mr. Gunderson stated these parks will be bid during the winter. Chair Arntson stated the biggest items are playgrounds and shelters. Commissioner Matsche asked why shelters are so important in parks. Mr. Engle stated it provides a gathering place or place for people to sit or for storm protection. This will go before City Council at their next meeting August 18, 2015. Mr. Coyle stated he will revise the plans based on tonight's comments before it goes to City Council.

4. NEW BUSINESS

None

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Parks and Trail Bond Updates:

Recreation Coordinator Ryan Gunderson provided an update on the trail projects:

Wilderness Trail – Complete

Coon Rapids Blvd. Trail – Staff plans to take bids on August 11 with the intent of awarding a contract on August 18. The trail would be resurfaced from Eldorado Street to Hanson Boulevard between early September and late October. Retaining walls would be replaced; however, the project does not include upgraded ADA pedestrian ramps at street crossings. The latter is because the work required to implement the latest ADA ped ramp requirements was beyond the scope of this project, and may have required pedestrian ramps on the north side of Coon Rapids Boulevard. The City and County will be working together in the future to develop a separate project in 2016 or 2017 to address the ADA Ramps.

85th Avenue Trail – Plans are about 90% complete. Staff continues to work with property owners to coordinate easement acquisitions. Staff will be working with Xcel Energy this fall and winter to move several power poles in advance of the project. At this point, the project is still on track for a winter/spring 2016 bidding, with construction to immediately follow.

Trails have been resurfaced in Nelson Park and Parkside Park. Trail work continues on the Lions Coon Creek Park Walking Loop. Staff is currently coordinating bids to resurface trails in Hoover Park this September.

Athletic Association Meetings:

Recreation Coordinator, Ryan Gunderson reviewed staff will be conducting review meetings with local athletic associations the week of August 17th. These meetings are intended to update the current affiliation agreement and discuss future agreements and coordination of athletic needs. The agenda for these meetings was provided for Commission review.

Meetings will be conducted on August 17th at the Coon Rapids Ice Center Conference Room.

4:00 p.m.	CR Cardinal Little League
5:00 p.m.	CRA American Little League
6:00 p.m.	Fastpitch
7:00 p.m.	Soccer
8:00 p.m.	CRAA

Update from Mr. Engle and Mr. Gunderson

Sand Creek – Work is progressing well. He will provide the playground proposal at the next meeting. A meeting was held and proposals for shelter were shown to Commissioners. Some cuts were made and rebid will be done the first of the year to make up the difference to bring it under budget. The gazebo's are 25 x 27' and is very similar to the one in Moor Park. The lights are in. Soil corrections have all been made. The concession stand will be simple. All grilling will be done outside the shelter. The City will be working with the health department for plan approval.

Riverview Park – The building is done. The water ponding is being looked at. There were some concrete issues. The shelter has rusting and exposed bolts. The grass near the basketball court needs to be redone. Some riprap needs to be done. There have been some building issues that have been resolved by the contractor.

Skateboard Park – All equipment has been ordered and installation will be done next Spring or Summer.

Woodview Park – A drawing of the playground equipment was provided. This would be part of the miscellaneous park budget and would be done in 2016. There is a large shelter in the park. An Eagle Scout painted it a few years ago. The Commission will need to make a decision if another shelter is needed. Mr. Gunderson stated it is no longer rented out. The shelter is still in good shape. The trail system in the park needs to be looked at further.

Hoover Park – The tennis court was removed today by City staff. The track will be removed this week. An Eagle Scout will be putting in a rain garden. The parking lot is done and striped. The curbing will be done when construction is completed. The school has request more excavation be done. Hydroseeding will be done. The contractor will come in to do the trail system with 8' trails. Prairie restoration could be done. The School District will need to take care of the other trails.

Disc Golf – City Staff will be working with the Disc Golf people. Mr. Gunderson stated he received the plan. The course has been re-designed. An estimate was provided of costs approximately \$12,000 - \$20,000. There are 21 holes in the plan because it is anticipated to have play in the winter.

Sustainability Committee – Is requesting help from the Parks Department on making parks more sustainable.

Property on Shenandoah and Main Street – There are two lots for sale. Mr. Engle asked if there was interest in developing a park or open space area. The property is zoned for low-density residential.

Rockslide, Kennedy, Peppermint Stick, Cardinal – there were problems with the woodchips and a new company came in and sprayed wood chips into those parks.

Rubber padding for playgrounds – there has been a lot of cracking. Will be redone in 5 different parks.

Park Benches, trash can pads – Will be put into Wilderness, Riverview, Sunrise, Moor, Crooked Lake,

Eagle Scout – Project to put in pads at Mercy Hospital for picnic tables.

Sunrise Pond Park – Irrigation is in and power has finally been put in. Park will be reseeded and new sign constructed.

Trail improvements for 2016 - Epiphany Ponds Park, Bison Park, Cardinal Woods Park, and Marshland Park.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LIVERMORE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SAND, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregg Engle
Parks Supervisor

Drafted by:
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TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.